UNITED
NATIONS

S

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/22130
22 January 1991

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 22 JANUARY 1991 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

In accordance with paragraph 4 of resolution 678, I wish, on behalf of my Government, to submit the following report on actions undertaken pursuant to paragraphs 2 and 3 of that resolution, to follow the initial report submitted on 18 January.

Since that report, military forces of the coalition, including United States military forces, acting in accordance with UNSCR 678, have continued their air action against Iraq's military targets, including Iraqi biological and chemical warfare facilities, mobile and fixed surface-to-surface missile sites, and occupation forces in Kuwait and southern Iraq, as well as command and control centers, supply lines and the air defense networks that protect these facilities. Over 8,100 coalition air sorties have been carried out since hostilities began 16 January.

As of the morning of 21 January, United States forces have lost ten aircraft. Other coalition forces have also suffered losses. In addition, fifteen U.S. military personnel have been reported as missing.

The naval forces of the United States have also engaged Iraq's naval forces in the northern Gulf. These attacks have been on Iraqi units that are engaged in operations against coalition forces.

On 17 January, a brief episode of artillery fire was initiated by Iraqi forces, causing some damage to an oil installation in Northern Saudi Arabia. Coalition forces responded to this attack and suppressed any further action from those Iraqi artillery positions.

On 17 January, Iraq launched one surface-to-surface missile at Saudi Arabia. Coalition forces destroyed that missile in mid-air.

READEX FICHE

In the early evening of 17 January (Eastern Standard Time), Iraqi forces also launched a number of surface-to-surface missiles in an unprovoked attack on another UN Member, Israel. Another such unprovoked attack occurred against Israel the following day. This unlawful use of force against the territorial integrity of a UN Member State that is not a party to the conflict was obviously not directed at specific military targets, but rather at civilian targets resulting in civilian casualties.

Late 20 January and early on the morning of 21 January, the Iraqi forces launched ten surface-to-surface missiles against the Saudi Arabian cities of Dhahran and Riyadh. As of today, we have no reports of casualties resulting from these attacks.

On 19 January, the United States provided notification to the ICRC and the Government of Iraq of the presence of two U.S. military hospital ships in the waters off the Arabian peninsula, earlier notification of which had been provided to States party to the Geneva Conventions.

On 19 January, the Government of the United States in a diplomatic note informed the Government of Iraq that it intends to treat captured members of the Iraqi armed forces fully in accordance with the Third Geneva Convention Relative to the Protection of Prisoners of War, and that the United States expected Iraq also to comply fully with this humanitarian convention. United States forces have captured 23 members of the Iraqi armed forces and have told the ICRC we are prepared to facilitate access to those POWs.

Following Iraqi broadcasts 20 January of taped interviews with several coalition prisoners of war, the Department of State called in the Iraqi Chargé d'affaires in Washington to protest the apparent treatment of members of the United States armed forces and other coalition forces held by the Government of Iraq. In a diplomatic note, the United States protested Iraq's apparent treatment of U.S. prisoners of war as contrary to the Third Geneva Convention of 1949 Relative to the Protection of Prisoners of War. The U.S. Department of State reminded Iraq that the mistreatment of prisoners of war is a war crime, demanded full Iraqi compliance with the convention and requested immediate access for the ICRC to any prisoners of war held by Iraq.

Baghdad radio has subsequently reported that the Government of Iraq intends to locate United States and other coalition POWs at strategic sites that may be subject to attack. This is a violation of the Geneva Conventions for which the United States will also hold the Government of Iraq and individual Iraqi officers responsible. Under the Third Geneva Convention, POWs may not be unnecessarily exposed to danger, and must be evacuated to camps in safe areas as soon as possible after capture. The Department of State 21 January therefore called in the Iraqi Chargé d'affaires in Washington to protest strongly such action and to reiterate the protest delivered on 20 January regarding Iraqi treatment of United States and other coalition POWs. The Department of State reaffirmed the above in diplomatic notes to the Government of Iraq.

On 21 January the U.S., British and Kuwaiti Ambassadors in Geneva met with ICRC President Sommaruga to bring officially to his attention Iraqi violations of the Geneva Conventions and to request the ICRC to take appropriate action.

A copy of the 21 January diplomatic note to the Government of Iraq is attached. I have already requested that you distribute as documents of the Security Council the two preceding notes of 19 and 20 January, as well as a circular note dated 19 January 1991 to the States party to the Geneva Conventions on the presence of hospital ships (S/22122).

I should be grateful if you would circulate this letter and its attachment as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Thomas R. PICKERING

Annex

Baghdad radio has reported that the Government of Iraq intends to locate United States and other coalition POWs in Iraq at likely strategic targets of coalition forces. The United States strongly protests the Government of Iraq's threat to so endanger POWs.

Under Article 19 of the Third Geneva Convention, prisoners of war are to be evacuated as soon as possible after their capture to camps situated in an area away from the combat zone, so that they will be out of danger. Under Article 23 of the Third Geneva Convention, no prisoner of war may be sent to, or detained in, areas where he may be exposed to the fire of the combat zone, nor may his presence be used to render certain points or areas immune from military operations. Moreover, prisoners of war are to have shelters against air bombardment and other hazards of war to the same extent as the local civilian population. Iraqi POWs captured by the United States will be accorded these protections.

The United States and other coalition forces are only attacking targets of military value in Iraq; the civilian population, as such, is not the object of attack. Consequently the Government of Iraq is capable of placing coalition POWs in areas where military attacks will not occur.

If the Government of Iraq places coalition POWs at military targets in Iraq, then the Government of Iraq will be in violation of the Third Geneva Convention, and Iraqi officials - whether members of the Iraqi Armed Forces or civilian government personnel - will have committed a serious war crime. The Government of the United States reminds the Government of Iraq that Iraqi individuals who are guilty of such war crimes, as well as other war crimes such as the exposure of POWs to mistreatment, coerced statements, public curiosity and insult, are personally liable and subject to prosecution at any time.

Department of State,
Washington, 21 January 1991.

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22 January 1991
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ORIGINAL: FRENCH

LETTER DATED 22 JANUARY 1991 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF FRANCE TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

Further to my letter (S/22100) of 17 January and pursuant to paragraph 4 of Security Council resolution 678 (1990), I have the honour to inform you of the action the French armed forces are continuing to take within the framework of the plans drawn up jointly with the allied forces with a view to securing the implementation of Security Council resolution 660 (1990) and of all pertinent subsequent resolutions of the Council.

The French air forces have engaged in further joint raids on Iraqi military targets in Kuwait. They have also continued their air defence mission in Saudi Arabia.

The French naval forces, for their part, are continuing their mission of monitoring logistics convoys in the inter-allied framework.

I wish also to inform you that France has decided to participate in the United Nations emergency plan on behalf of the displaced populations in the Gulf. The French contributions will be made to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Pierre-Louis BLANC

91-02211 2250b (E)

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LETTER DATED 22 JANUARY 1991 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF FRANCE TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that on Monday, 21 January, the Ambassador of Iraq was called to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to receive an official protest from the French Government following the decisions announced by Iraq with respect to prisoners of war.

The need for strict compliance by Iraq with the rules of humanitarian law, and in particular with the third Geneva Convention relative to the treatment of prisoners of war, which Iraq has signed and ratified, was firmly recalled on this occasion. The third Convention does not provide that, in order to benefit from its provisions, prisoners should be the subject of a public declaration by the forces of which they form a part.

France, for its part, will apply the Geneva Convention to all prisoners, whether or not declared. It will treat its prisoners humanely.

The blatant breach of the Geneva Conventions that the putting into effect the decisions announced by Iraq would constitute arouses the indignation of the international community. Persons guilty of such breaches will have to answer for them, whatever their level of responsibility.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Pierre-Louis BLANC

91-02217 2093h (E)

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Security Council

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S/22133
22 January 1991

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

NOTE BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

Following consultations of the Security Council, the President made the following statement, on behalf of the Council, at its 2974th meeting on 22 January 1991, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "The situation in Liberia":

"The members of the Security Council took note of the final communiqué of the first extraordinary session of the Heads of State and Government of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) issued in Bamako, Mali, on 28 November 1990.

"The members of the Security Council commend the efforts made by the ECOWAS Heads of State and Government to promote peace and normalcy in Liberia.

"The members of the Security Council call upon the parties to the conflict in Liberia to continue to respect the cease-fire agreement which they have signed and to co-operate fully with the ECOWAS to restore peace and normalcy in Liberia.

"The members of the Security Council express appreciation to the Member States, the Secretary-General and humanitarian organizations for the humanitarian assistance to Liberia and call for additional assistance. In this connection the Council welcomes the resumption of the United Nations emergency programme in Liberia following the acceptance of a general cease-fire.

"The members of the Security Council support the appeal launched by the ECOWAS Summit to the international community for increased humanitarian assistance to the people of Liberia."

91-02241 2249b (E)

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Security Council

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S/22134
22 January 1991
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

LETTER DATED 22 JANUARY 1991 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

The Permanent Mission of Iraq to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, and has the honour to inform him that the bombing raids and the pounding with missiles being conducted by the United States of America and their "allies" against urban concentrations in Iraq have resulted in the following losses of human life and material damage in many towns and urban concentrations:

1. Tamim province: 6 dead and 17 injured
2. Ninawi province: destruction of a house at Mosul and other damage
3. Baghdad: 8 dead, 46 injured and several houses damaged
4. Al-Ambary province: 10 dead and 8 injured
5. Al-Qadissiah province: 4 dead and destruction of 4 private motor vehicles, several houses, shops and one ambulance
6. Najf province: 7 injured
7. Basra province: 5 dead, including 1 child, and 72 injured
8. Mathna province: 5 dead and 23 injured
9. Babel province: 2 dead and 7 injured
10. Al-Houma region/Kuwait province: 1 dead and 11 injured (women and children).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Abdul Amir AL-ANBARI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

91-02229 2209j (E)

UNITED
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Security Council

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GENERAL

S/22135
23 January 1991
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

LETTER DATED 23 JANUARY 1991 FROM THE REPRESENTATIVES OF ALGERIA, THE LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA, MAURITANIA, MOROCCO AND TUNISIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from our respective Governments, we, the Representatives of the States members of the Arab Maghreb Union, have the honour to request you to convene an urgent meeting of the Security Council to consider the grave situation in the Gulf region.

(Signed) Ali SKALLI
Permanent Representative
of Morocco to the United
Nations

(Signed) Ahmed GHEZAL
Permanent Representative of
Tunisia to the United Nations

(Signed) Amar BENDJAMA
Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the
Permanent Mission of Algeria
to the United Nations

(Signed) Mohamedou OULD MOHAMED MAHMOUD
Permanent Representative of Mauritania
to the United Nations

(Signed) Ali A. TREIKI
Permanent Representative of the Libyan
Arab Jamahiriya to the United Nations

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S/22136
23 January 1991

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 22 JANUARY 1991 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF BOTSWANA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to enclose herewith text of the statement issued by the Government of the Republic of Botswana on the outbreak of hostilities in the Persian Gulf. I should be grateful if this letter, along with its enclosure, could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Legwaila J. M. J. LEGWAILA
Ambassador/Permanent Representative

Encl.

Annex

Press statement issued on 16 January 1991 by Botswana on the Gulf crisis

All Batswana must be aware by now of the crisis that has been looming in the Gulf since Iraq invaded the neighbouring State of Kuwait on 2 August 1990 and annexed it as part of its territory.

Since the invasion, the United Nations Security Council has adopted a number of resolutions aimed at forcing Iraq to withdraw its troops from the Emirate. The last of these resolutions, resolution 678 (1990), gave Iraq a deadline of 15 January 1991 to withdraw peacefully without any pre-conditions or face the likelihood of forced withdrawal at the hands of countries co-operating with Kuwait.

Concomitant with the actions of the United Nations Security Council, efforts were made by some countries, organizations and individuals to try to resolve the crisis peacefully by diplomatic means. The latest of these efforts was the visit of the United Nations Secretary-General to Baghdad just two days ago.

Unfortunately, all these efforts seem to have failed to bring about a peaceful resolution of the problem. Although the very latest news on this subject is that the French Government is making yet another last-minute effort to seek a diplomatic solution to the problem, there is no guarantee that it will succeed.

The conclusion of the Department of External Affairs under the circumstances is that there is a high probability that war will break out in the Gulf on or after the deadline of 15 January set by the United Nations Security Council. In that event, Botswana and Batswana in general are likely to suffer direct and indirect harm as a result of the conflict. As a developing country dependent on imported oil, we can be certain that a sharp rise in the oil price will seriously affect the health of our economy, as indeed has already happened to some extent since the invasion.

For the general public, the Department would like to warn all Batswana to avoid travelling to the Gulf during this period if they can help it as there is nothing that Government can do to assist or protect them should they find themselves in difficulty while there.

This is an uncertain period in international relations. Botswana has condemned Iraq for its disregard of international law by invading a small and peaceful Member of the United Nations Organization. War always has terrible consequences and should be avoided at all costs. The Department deeply regrets the turn that events seem to be taking in regard to this crisis.

It is to be hoped that whatever difficulties there are for each of the directly concerned parties, reason will prevail in the end so that the people of the Middle East in particular and humanity in general could be spared the miseries of another war.

Department of External Affairs
Gaborone

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23 January 1991

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 23 JANUARY 1991 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF ITALY TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to inform you that the Italian Government deemed it necessary to point out to the Iraqi authorities that, in the framework of the military action in which Italy is participating under the terms of Security Council resolution 678 (1990), it expects Iraq to comply strictly with the Third Geneva Convention.

Representations were made to the Embassy of Iraq in Rome on 20 and 22 January to remind Iraq of its obligations under the Third Geneva Convention.

Following the Iraqi television's broadcast displaying among others a captive Italian pilot, the Italian Government conveyed to the Ambassador of Iraq its strong condemnation of this action. Iraq was therefore enjoined to comply rigorously with article 13 of the Third Geneva Convention. Furthermore, Iraq was warned in the strongest terms, recalling article 23 of the same Convention, against carrying out its alleged intention to move prisoners of war to strategic sites in the country.

Italy also asked the International Committee of the Red Cross to play its institutional role concerning prisoners in Iraq.

At the same time, the Italian Government indicated that it will scrupulously comply with the Third and Fourth Geneva Conventions, as well as with all other relevant international agreements on human rights.

I should be grateful if you would circulate this letter as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Vieri TRAXLER
Ambassador

91-02314 2120e (E)

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S/22138
23 January 1991
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ORIGINAL: ARABIC

LETTER DATED 23 JANUARY 1991 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SUDAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that the Sudan supports the request made to you by the member States of the Arab Maghreb Union for the convening of an urgent meeting of the Security Council to consider the grave situation in the Gulf region.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Joseph LAGU
Permanent Representative

91-02329 2213j (E)

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General Assembly Security Council

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A/45/939
S/22139
23 January 1991

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-fifth session
Agenda item 153
IRAQI AGGRESSION AND THE CONTINUED OCCUPATION OF KUWAIT IN FLAGRANT VIOLATION OF THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-sixth year

Letter dated 22 January 1991 from the Permanent Representative of the Philippines to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to bring to your attention certain events which occurred only days ago in the Philippines and which bear an unmistakable connection to the present conflict in the Middle East.

I regret to have to inform you that an Iraqi national was killed and another wounded in Makati, Metro Manila, last Saturday night (19 January 1991), when a bomb they intended to plant in the Thomas Jefferson Cultural Center exploded prematurely. The dead Iraqi was identified as a member of an international terrorist organization. The two were carrying 200 lbs. of explosives and were then 100 yards from their target.

In a related development, Philippine Secretary of Foreign Affairs, Raul S. Manglapus, announced that the Government of the Philippines had declared Mr. Muwafak A-Ani, First Secretary of the Iraqi Embassy in Manila, as persona non-grata in accordance with the 1961 Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations. He was given 72 hours from 21 January 1991 to leave the country. Philippine intelligence and security authorities asserted that they had unearthed strong evidence linking him to the failed bombing of the Cultural Center.

Secretary Manglapus said that the decision "should not be looked at as an action against the Government of Iraq and certainly not against the people of Iraq, but directed against the person for acts beyond his diplomatic functions and violation of local laws and regulations".

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 153, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Sedfrey A. ORDONEZ
Ambassador,
Permanent Representative

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General Assembly Security Council

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S/22140
23 January 1991
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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-fifth session
Agenda items 35 and 153
THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST
IRAQI AGGRESSION AND THE CONTINUED OCCUPATION OF KUWAIT IN FLAGRANT VIOLATION OF THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-sixth year

Letter dated 23 January 1991 from the Permanent Representative of Luxembourg to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to enclose the text, in French and English, of the statement on the situation of the prisoners of war detained by Iraq, issued by the European Community and its 12 member States on 22 January 1991 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 35 and 153, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Jean FEYDER
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

ANNEX

Statement on the situation of prisoners of war

The European Community and its member States express their deep concern at the unscrupulous use of prisoners of war and at the intention announced by Iraq to concentrate them near military bases and targets. They consider these actions particularly odious because they are contrary to elementary respect for international law and humanitarian principles. They condemn such actions unreservedly.

They request the Iraqi authorities rigorously to respect all the Geneva Conventions relating to the conduct of war and in particular the Convention of 12 August 1949 on the treatment of prisoners of war. This stipulates in particular in article 13 that "prisoners of war must at all times be protected, particularly against acts of violence or intimidation and against insults and public curiosity", and in article 23 that "No prisoner of war may at any time be sent to, or detained in areas where he may be exposed to the fire of the combat zone, nor may his presence be used to render certain points or areas immune from military operations".

In conformity with article 125 of this same Convention, the special position of the International Committee of the Red Cross in this field should be recognized and respected. The Community and its member States pay tribute to the work of the Red Cross and support all steps aimed at strengthening its role.

The Community and its member States hold the Iraqi authorities responsible in accordance with international law, including in their individual capacities, for all illegal acts endangering the physical integrity and the life of prisoners of war, which clearly constitute a war crime.

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Security Council

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S/22141
23 January 1991

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 23 JANUARY 1991 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Upon instructions from my Government, and in light of grave and dangerous situation which has erupted in the Persian Gulf region as a consequence of Iraqi invasion and continued occupation of Kuwait and the ensuing forcible measures taken since 16 January 1991, I have the honour to bring the following to your attention.

The Islamic Republic of Iran, as Your Excellency is well aware, condemned Iraqi aggression against Kuwait, and called for immediate, unconditional and complete withdrawal of Iraqi forces to pre-invasion positions. My Government has also taken all necessary measures to comply, in line with its obligations under the United Nations Charter, with the relevant resolutions of the Security Council, in particular its resolutions 661 and 670. Your Excellency has already been informed of the measures taken by the Islamic Republic of Iran in this respect through letters contained in documents S/AC.25/1990/38 and S/22020.

Since the declaration of our rejection of Iraqi occupation of Kuwait early after the invasion, my Government endeavoured to bring this crisis to a peaceful end through realization of unconditional and complete withdrawal of Iraqi forces from Kuwait. This policy was pursued both in our bilateral contacts with Iraqi leadership and in our endeavours at regional, Islamic and international levels. Only days before 15 January 1991, during the visit of the Vice-Chairman of Iraq's Revolutionary Command Council, the authorities of the Islamic Republic of Iran emphasized the unavoidable necessity of Iraq's full compliance with Security Council resolutions in order to avert a catastrophic war. We also proposed the convening of an emergency extraordinary Summit of the Organization of Islamic Conference in an attempt to find a peaceful termination of the crisis in line with relevant Security Council resolutions. We regret that the collective efforts of the international community, including those of my country, to prevent the currently unfolding catastrophe failed.

The human loss and destruction inflicted upon the Muslim people of the region and their resources, the dangerous prospects for prolongation and spread of the conflict, and the evidence of violations of international humanitarian law and

norms governing the conduct of armed hostilities are alarming. Under these grave circumstances, it is imperative that the Security Council - which was actively seized of this crisis prior to 15 January 1991 - assess the present situation in light of its resolutions and take a more active role in achieving, without further loss and destruction, the complete withdrawal of Iraq from Kuwait, termination of the present armed conflict and withdrawal of foreign forces from the region.

The Islamic Republic of Iran, for its part, is prepared to co-operate fully with Your Excellency and the Security Council in order to achieve the above-mentioned objectives as well as the long-term stability and security in the volatile and strategic Persian Gulf region which can only be realized through a regional security and co-operation mechanism within a United Nations framework and without intervention and presence of foreign forces - which has historically been misguided and destabilizing.

Furthermore, in line with its principles and requirements of its national security, the Islamic Republic of Iran considers it imperative to refrain from engagement in the present armed conflict. Needless to say, the Islamic Republic of Iran reserves the right to take all necessary measures, in exercise of its legitimate and inalienable right of self-defense recognized in Article 51 of the Charter, against any violation of its sovereignty or territorial integrity.

It would be highly appreciated if this letter were circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Kamal KHARRAZI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Security Council

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S/22142
23 January 1991
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

LETTER DATED 23 JANUARY 1991 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF KUWAIT TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government and in response to the letter by the representative of Iraq (S/22134), I wish to inform you as follows.

The Government of Kuwait regrets any loss of lives resulting from the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait and Iraq's obstinate refusal to comply with the relevant Security Council resolutions. Nevertheless, it considers that what is in Iraq's letter regarding the so-called "Kuwait Province" is but further evidence of the Iraqi régime's intransigence and its disregard for the will of the international community as embodied in the 12 resolutions of the Security Council on Kuwait.

The Government of Kuwait rejects everything said in the Iraqi letter regarding the so-called "Kuwait province", and holds Iraq responsible for its non-compliance with the relevant Security Council resolutions, particularly resolutions 660 (1990) and 662 (1990).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mohammad A. ABULHASAN
Permanent Representative

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General Assembly Security Council

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A/45/941
S/22143
24 January 1991
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ORIGINAL: ARABIC

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-fifth session
Agenda items 35 and 153
THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST
IRAQI AGGRESSION AND THE CONTINUED OCCUPATION OF KUWAIT IN FLAGRANT VIOLATION OF THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-sixth year

Letter dated 23 January 1991 from the Permanent Representative of Egypt to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of the statement made on 22 January 1991 by Mr. Esmat Abdel Meguid, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs, to the joint meeting of the Inter-Arab Affairs, Defence and National Security and Foreign Relations Committees of the People's Assembly.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 35 and 153, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Amre M. MOUSSA
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

ANNEX

Statement made on 22 January 1991 by the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Egypt to the joint meeting of the Inter-Arab Affairs, Defence and National Security and Foreign Relations Committees of the People's Assembly

The present delicate circumstances and the successive developments taking place in the region require that I should address you once again today in order to supplement and expand on the statement I made to you on 13 January, at which time I recalled the causes and background of the crisis and the Egyptian position with regard to it.

Events have evolved and succeeded each other with enormous speed since last we met. It may therefore be useful for me to review with you our analysis of the situation and our view of its dimensions and of the developments that it underwent between the time of our aforementioned meeting and the early morning of 17 January 1991, the day on which the operation for the liberation of Kuwait began.

In the days leading up to the expiry of the deadline established by the United Nations Security Council in its resolution 678 (1990), Egypt engaged in intense activity with the aim of thereby sparing the region a devastating and murderous war that would destroy everything root and branch.

In another respect, Egypt participated in the efforts made by a number of leaders and personalities of substance at the inter-Arab and international levels in order to prevent the outbreak of war. Those efforts were indeed gigantic and sustained, and they were made in an attempt to persuade the Iraqi President to give peace efforts a chance to bear fruit and the spectre of war a chance to vanish.

Most regrettably, all of those efforts and attempts foundered on the rock of Iraqi rejection, a rejection which forced the international community to resort to the use of armed force for the implementation of numerous Security Council resolutions, beginning with resolution 660 (1990) and ending with resolution 678 (1990) of 29 November 1990.

In the context of the efforts made with a view to preventing escalation and of the endeavour to contain the situation, I should like to note the sustained and sincere effort made by President Hosni Mubarak to spare the Iraqi people and the peoples of the region the hazards of war and the consequences of destruction.

In this perspective, before the expiry of the deadline on the evening of 15 January, President Mubarak addressed to the Iraqi President one last appeal, the twenty-sixth in the series of appeals that he had made to him since 20 July 1990. A detailed statement concerning these appeals has been deposited with your Committees.

I must not fail to refer to the statement of the joint committee formed by the Inter-Arab Affairs, Defence and National Security and Foreign Relations Committees

issued on 13 January 1991, which referred to the negative consequences of the evolution of events in the Gulf crisis and which contained an appeal to the Iraqi President calling upon him to spare the people of Iraq and the Arab nation the horrors of a devastating war.

In these crucial moments, in which the fate of an entire people, namely the Iraqi people, is being decided, we find one individual gambling with the destiny of a whole people and controlling its fate in order to achieve ambitions for spurious power and ephemeral dominance.

In these critical times, when the fate of an entire nation is being determined, I can only reaffirm yet again that the Egyptian position, which is one that stems from commitment to the principles of truth and justice, urges the need for Iraq to comply with the resolutions of the Security Council, which are the result and the reflection of the will of the international community for the full and unconditional withdrawal of the Iraqi forces from Kuwaiti territory in order to allow the liberation of Kuwait and the restoration of the legitimate Kuwaiti authority, God willing, to the performance of its positive role in the inter-Arab and international arenas.

Our region, which has witnessed successive conflicts and the dissipation of capacities and efforts in marginal issues which are harmful and to no avail, is today, in light of its aspirations for a better future for its sons, more than ever in need of a peace that will allocate capacities to and focus efforts on development, that will build and not destroy and that will preserve and not squander, the very peace which is one of the glorious attributes of God.

In conclusion, I can only beseech the Lord Almighty to safeguard Egypt and the Arab nation and preserve them from all evil and all harm. He is the best guardian, and He is the most merciful of the merciful.

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GENERAL

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24 January 1991

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LETTER DATED 24 JANUARY 1991 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF YEMEN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to request an immediate meeting of the Security Council to examine the grave situation in the Gulf region.

(Signed) Abdalla S. AL-ASHTAL
Ambassador
Representative to the
Security Council

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